(b) whether Mr. Pressler also called Clinton Adminisrration's attitude towards the future of Pressler Amendment ambigous, particularly in view of U.S. Assistant Secretay of State Ms. Robin Raphel's recent statement that the Pressler Amendment is an obstacle to good relations of the U.S. with Pakistan; and

(c) what is Government's reaction to this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L BHATIA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have noted that, following opposition from US Congressional quarters, the revised draft of the Foreign Assistane Act, now renamed as Peace, Prosperity and Democacy Act of 1994, sent by the US Administration to the US ongress,, retains the Presler Amendment. In the first draft the US Admiinstration had proposed repealing this Amendment.

Government have conveyed their concern on several occasions about the effect on India's security environment of the transfer of frontline weapon systems from the US to Pakistan. Government remain alert to further developments in this regard and are committed to take all necessary steps to safeguard India's national interest.

US think thank's meeting with Indian intellectuals

2285. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Influential US Think Tank led by Mr. Robert Mc Namara has recently visited India to discuss the implications of NPT with some leading intellectuals here; and

(b) if so, whether the discussions have suggested a new approach?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government have seen press reports giving a gist of the discussions purported to have taken place.

Pakistan waging a proxy was against India

2286. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government have any plan of coming out with a White Paper on the low cost proxy war waged by Pakistan against India by inspiring, aiding training and funding the militants in Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): This proposal is not under the consideration of the Government of India. However. Governmen(have and will continue to appise the international community of the factual position regarding Pakistan's involvement with terrorism directed against India.

Consular treaty between India and China

2287. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has ratified the Consular Treaty between the two countries on establishing consulates at Bombay and Sanghai;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government have received any information in this regard from China; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) India and China signed the Agreement on the Re-establishment of Consulate General at

Bombay and Shanghai on 13 December, 1991 in New Delhi. The Agreement came into force on the date of its signature.

(b) Arising out of this Agreement, the Chinese Consulate General in Bombay was formally inaugurated on December, 7, 1992 and the Indian Consulate General in Shanghai was formally inaugurated on January, 16, 1993.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Defend Kashmir Campaign by INCA

2288. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Congress of America (INCA) has lately spearheaded a campaign named "Defend Kashmir campaign" in the US, in reply to recent Pakistani propaganda unleashed by Pak-Prime Minister, pointing out that most of the disturbances in Kashmir were attributable to Pakistan's deliberate instigations; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto, by way of lending support to the campaign by the INCA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and answer will be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest.

Exemption from Visa Requirement

2289. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Governments of India and Pakistan had taken a joint decision to exempt curtain categories of people in both the countries from visa requirements for visiting each other's country;

(b) if so, what are the categories which have been so exempted and whether Members of Parliament have also been included in the said categories;

(c) whether Government propose to include the Members of Parliament in this category, if the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the said decision as at (a) above has already been implemented; and

(e) if not, what progress has been made in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (e) The India-Pakistan Visa Agreement of 1974 does not exempt any category of people in both the countries from visa requirements for visiting each other's country. However, under the SAARC Visa Exemption Endorstment Facility which has been operational since March 1, 1992, Members of the National Parliaments, Judges of the Supreme Court and Heads of Centrally-aided National Academic Institutions, their accompaning spouses and dtpendon children below the age of 18 years are entitled to visa-free travel within the SAARC region after getting a visa exemption sticker affixed on their passports. The India-Pakistan Visa Agreement is being amended accordingly.

Assault on Indians living in Kuwait

2290. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a spurt in assaults and attacks on Indians living in Kuwait recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the so-called J. K. Human Rights movement held a seminar in support of Kashmir separatists there; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Some incidents of assault on Indian nationals in